(b) if so, what effective steps the Government propose to take to make the law more rigorous and to make the existing enforcement machinery more stringent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b): Various new and stringent legislative measures introduced in India ;in the recent years have been effective in discouraging drug trafficking in and through India. These measures include provisions for rigorous imprisonment from 10 to 30 years, death penalty for repeat offences in certain cases, making drug trafficking a non-bailable offence, trail of such offences in special courts for speedy disposal, and freezing and forfeiture of traffickers financial assets and properties derived from illicit drug trafficking. The legislative measures coupled with a multi-pronged enforcement drive carried our by various enforcement agencies in the country have proved to be effective in tackling drug menace.

Repair of National Highway No.47

7151. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway No. 47 passing through Alleppey District has been damaged by flood at several places;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government for the repairs of the highway; and

(c) the time by which the repair work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Yes , Sir.

(b) and (c) Maintenance of National Highway is a continuing activity and the State PWD is taking necessary action to carry out the urgent repairs to keep National Highways in a traffic worthy condition.

Legislation for Marriage with a Foreigner

7152. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LLAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Union Government proposed to bring forward legislation making it mandatory to obtain the prior approval of the government for marriage with a foreigner:

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether there is any such restriction at present in relation to any class of citizens or Government employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE, AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KUMARMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) . Rule 8 of the Indian Foreign Service (Conduct and Discipline) Rules, 1961, as amended in 1986, provides inter alia that a member of the Indian Foreign Service shall not contract a marriage with any person other than an Indian citizen without the prior permission in writing of the Government.

Marriage between Indians And Saudis

7153. SHRI MORESWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state;